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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Kevin A. CURTIS et al.

Serial No. : 09/336,031

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For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REFERENCING, Technology Center 2100
ARCHIVING AND RETRIEVING SYMBOLICALLY
LINKED INFORMATION

Group Art Unit : 2172

Examiner : Ella Colbert

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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MICHELLE M. CARNIAUX
KENYON & KENYON

AMENDMENT

SIR:

This Amendment addresses the Office Action of December 5, 2001. Initially, please amend the above-identified application, as set forth below.

In The Claims:

41. (New) A method for storing and referencing symbolically linked information in an environment wherein a plurality of different symbols are conventionally utilized to refer to a single entity, comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of input symbols, each pertaining to a same single entity;
for each of the plurality of input symbols, generating a normalized master symbol;
determining a unique parent symbol corresponding to the master symbols;
storing the parent symbol and the plurality of master symbols in a master symbol database wherein each of the plurality of normalized master symbols is linked to the parent symbol.

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